

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/738,990

Examiner

Matthew J. Sked

Applicant(s)

EISELE, ANDREAS

Art Unit

2655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The objection to the Oath or Declaration is withdrawn in view of the submitted copy of Applicant's March 26, 2001 Declaration.
2. The rejection of claim 11 under 35 USC 112 is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment filed 8/12/05.
3. Applicant's arguments, in view of the amendments, filed 8/12/05, with respect to claims 1, 19 and 20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-20 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 1, 19 and 20 teach a method, system and computer readable medium storing instructions for extracting translations from translated texts, comprising: accessing a first and second text in a first and second language, respectively, wherein the second language is different than the first language, dividing the first and second text into a plurality of textual elements, creating a sequence of text pairs from the plurality of textual elements, each pair consisting of a text portion of the first text and a text portion of the second text, calculating a pair score for each pair in the sequence using the number of occurrences of a plurality of features in the text portions of the respective pairs and a plurality of weights each assigned to one feature of the plurality of features,

wherein the pair scores are calculated by taking, for each feature occurring in the pair, a minimum number of the number of occurrences of the respective feature in the paired text portions, taking a product of the minimum number and the weight assigned to the respective feature, and summing up all the products of all the features; calculating an alignment score using the pair scores, wherein the alignment score indicates the translation quality and optimizing the alignment score by systematically searching through a space of alternatives and combining optimal alignments for subsequences into optimal alignments for longer sequences.

Berger (U.S. Pat. 6,304,841) teaches a method of extracting translations from translated texts, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing a first text in a first language (source text, Fig. 11, element 10);

accessing a second text in a second language, the second language being different from the first language, the second text being a translation of the first text (target hypothesis generator generates target hypotheses that are translations of the source text, col. 5, line 41 to col. 6, line 4);

dividing the first text and the second text each into a plurality of textual elements (alignment connects each source word with each target word hence the text must inherently be divided into these segments, col. 6, lines 22-26);

forming a sequence of pairs of text portions from said plurality of textual elements, each pair comprising a text portion of the first text and a text portion of the second text, each text portion comprising zero or more adjacent textual elements, each

Art Unit: 2651

textual element of the first and the second text being comprised in a text portion of the sequence (aligns each source word with at least one target word, col. 6, lines 22-38);

calculating a pair score of each pair in the sequence (calculates a word match score for each source word and target hypothesis word, col. 7, lines 45-53);

calculating an alignment score of the sequence using said pair scores, said alignment score indicating the translation quality of the sequence (calculates a translation match score by combining the word match scores, col. 11, lines 44-53); and

optimizing a hypothesis match score by searching through the space of alternatives (target hypothesis generator generates multiple hypotheses and the hypothesis with the best match score is outputted hence optimizes the score by choosing the hypothesis with the best score, col. 12, lines 40-44).

Gale ("A Program for Aligning Sentences in Bilingual Corpora") teaches a method for aligning texts that calculates a distance measurement between the two portions of text that uses the number of occurrences of a plurality of features of the respective pair and using a plurality of weights (uses the lengths of the two portions of text (number of occurrences of features) and the means and variance (weights) to calculate the distance measure, page 7, last three paragraphs).

Melamed ("Bitext Maps and Alignment via Pattern Recognition") teaches a for aligning texts by grouping similar points together into subspaces and finds optimal subspaces based upon their distance from the main diagonal, these subspaces would then be chained together to form long sequences, section 4.5, pages 117 and 118).

Art Unit: 2651

None of the prior art on record teaches wherein the pair scores are calculated by taking, for each feature occurring in the pair, a minimum number of the number of occurrences of the respective feature in the paired text portions, taking a product of the minimum number and the weight assigned to the respective feature, and summing up all the products of all the features. It would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the prior art on record to arrive at the Applicant's invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

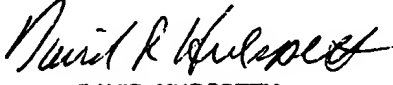
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J. Sked whose telephone number is (571) 272-7627. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2651

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MS
3/1/06


DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600